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ABSTRACT

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This is a report of a pilot project directed toward planning an educational information network. The network will ewentually connect the information processing capabilities of the New York City school system to information processing of the State Education Department in Albany. The study reported the fall enrollment and degrees conferred in higher educational institutions throughout New York State and studied now teacher personnel information was collected, processed, and then transmitted from the New York City school system to the State Education Department. The document contains samples of the various types of forms used in the reporting and also discusses the usefulness and the problems of each item of information. A chapter is devoted to the implications of the pilot project for building a State education information network that may also be coordinated with the U.S. Office of Education. A digest of the results of a sampling of higher educational institution data processing programs currently in use is provided in an appendix. (DE)

DATA PROCESSING AND A STATE EDUCATIONAL INFORMATION SYSTEM

Prepared for The University of the State of New York The State Education Department

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A PILOT PROJECT

Educational Research School AND COLLEGE CONSUMANTS Services inc.



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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, ENUCATION & WELFARE OFFICE OF EDUCATION

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November 1964

Educational Research Services, Inc., 7 Holland Avenue, White Plains, N.Y.



FOREWORD

This report was prepaled under contract to the New York State Education Department as a pilot project examining uses of compute sin State statistical reporting in education. It is limited to higher education reporting of fall enrollments and degrees conferred and reporting of teacher personnel in New York City.

The higher education phase of the study was derived from correspondence and field visits to six institutions. Broome Technical Community College, Cornell University, Harpur College, New York University, Reasselder Polytechnic Institute and University of Rochester. Considerable credit is due David A. Warren, Associate Registrar, Cornell University. For this phase of the study

Numerous individuals contributed to the preparation of this report In great part it is to be considered a cooperative project. Participants include Lorne H Woollatt Associate Commissioner for Relearch, Irwin K French, Director, and Robert H. McCombridge, Associate Director, Office of Administrative Services in Higher Education John J. Stiglmeier. Chief, Bureau of Statistical Services, and Ruth Callaghan Director, Division of Electronic Data Processing, all of the New York State Education Department; Thomas H. Shea. Director of Institutional Research and Arnold Spaner, Principal Administrative Analyst, State University of New York, Harvey N. Roehl, Associate Dean and Registrar, Broome Technical Community College, Ralph B von Guerard Reg strar and Frank Dana, Associate Registrar, New York University, John A. Dunlop, Registrar, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Robert E. Cyphers, Director of Registration, University of Rochester; Frederick W. Hill, Deputy Superintendent, Raymond McDaniel, Director of Management Information and Data Processing, and Joseph Justman, Acting Director, Bureau of Education Research and Statistics of the Board of Education, New York City

Francis G Correll



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This is a report of a pilot project limited to ways of reporting fall enrollment and degrees conferred in higher educational institutions and ways of transmitting teacher personnel information from the New York City School System to the State Education Department.

work with a computer in a college could be related to a computer in Albany led to interest in the system. This implies attention to the why and to many contributing purposes and activities, including a recognition of the importance of institutional and local interests as part of the State system.

The GE 225 Computer

The occasion for the study was, in part, the installation in the State Education Department of the GE 225 Computer. The addition of this hardware to the processing facilities of the Department justifies a new look at statistical reporting because capabilities for handling masses of data on the State level have markedly increased. What with improvements also in equipment for processing in reporting agencies, school systems and colleges, the time is at hand for anticipating ways in which full advantage is to be taken of this development in technology.



From the standpoint of reporting of the type under examination in this analysis, the gains at the State level can be described briefly as these.

a) Speed. The GE 225 is a transistorized digital computer which, with peripheral equipment, can

Read cards - 400 or 1,000 per minute

Punch cards - 100 per minute

Read paper tape - 250 or 1,000 characters per second

Punch paper tape - 110 characters per second

Read from and write on magnetic tape - 15,000 or 41,600 characters per second

Print - 150 or 900 lines per minute

- b) Capacity. The GE 225 processes both alphanumeric and binary information. Both data to be processed and a program (instructions) are stored in a memory component using basically a "word" consisting of 20 bits plus a parity bit. Such computers can accept large masses of data and perform complex arithmetical operations in addition to sorting, collating, counting (summing, adding, totalling) necessary with most statistical reports in education. It is of interest that their first application in educational agencies is usually payroll work which requires multiplication, division, as well as addition and subtraction because of payroll rates, withholding computations, etc. The capacity for mathematical work of such a computer is remarkably suited to applications of controlling production, controlling inventories and scientific research. The mathematical power of computers has been used in types of work with educational statistics concerned with rotating matrices in factor analysis, multiple regression analysis, extraction of roots of equations, linear programming and the like.
- c) Accessibility. Rapid advances in the computer field has greatly broadened the scope of applications. Computers of the GE 225 type add flexibility not only because of the breadth of operations which may be performed, but also because of the variations in input and output operations. Information can be accepted not only from punched cards, magnetic tape, punched paper tape, but also by optical scanning devices and equipment for recognizing characters in magnetic ink. The GE 225 system includes equipment which can accommodate 15 lines for communication with remote input/output stations via two-wire cables, toll telephone or telegraph quality channels.

Largely because of the speed and accessibility features, it has been considered worth examing the communication system between the State and its respondents and implications for developing a State reporting network. Conferences on the subject touched upon considerations other than hardware related to designing such a network. Some of these which bear on observations in this report are outlined below

Considerations in Designing Reporting Systems

In a very real sense the adequacy of a reporting system should not be determined initially by descriptions of what available equipment can do. Instrumentation should be adapted to the task. It seems logical that, in building a reporting network, some of the following points should be taken into account:

- 1. Function Covering the substance which should be covered.
 - a) Free of unnecessary duplication and too frequent reporting.
 - b) New items, definitions and sources when needed; old ones dropped when no longer needed
 - c) Forms, items, processing steps, riming, all rationally justified in goals or purposes
 - d) All elements of network cognizant of relationship to end product and its importance
- 2. Mechanics Production of information, responding and processing
 - a) Items restricted to respondents objective and available data
 - b) Definitions and coding for records of respondents.



- c) Reporting media (e.g. forms) meet standards of convenience and utility and adapted to responding and processing.
- d) Interlocking segments dovetail in format and get together at right time and place.
- e) Work burden and cost not out of line for use value.
- f) Statistical estimation, employed where consistent with degree of precision required by use.
- g) End products available on time in right place for intended uses.
- h) Processing equipment and methods appropriate.

In short, the problem of computer use is to get the machines to do what one wants done. In a system which is a network of partially voluntary components, there is the additional factor of uncontrolled information flow which can be overcome only by building, not at the center, but at the source, the school systems and institutions.



REPORTING FALL ENROLLMENT IN HIGHER EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

Planning analyses using projections of enrollments depend heavily upon fall enrollments of students in higher educational institutions. The fall enrollment statistic is particularly important as a measure of analyzing enrollment trends since it is a figure presumably showing an unduplicated number of students as of a given time. By being available as early as possible at the beginning of an academic year, it permits the use of information during the course of that year in studies which depend on such data.

Particularly since World War II, when the outlook for demands upon higher educational institutions was known to expand rapidly, it has been important to many engaged in planning and managing higher educational systems to have as rapidly as possible a picture of what is happening in the registration of students in higher educational institutions. The U.S. Office of Education among other agencies initiated a program of reporting fall enrollments at the conclusion of World War II and has developed a simplified short report of a more extensive form intended to supply expeditiously at the beginning of the year useful information on trends in higher educational enrollment statistics.

The State Education Department in New York as part of its reporting system assembles as of the fall of each year information on enrollment of students from all higher educational institutions in the State. The usefulness to the State Education Department or to others of these data depend in great part upon the rapidity with



which the information can be supplied by institutions, transmitted to the State Education Department and processed by the State Education Department for the use of those who require it. As a sample of the reporting network of the State Education Department with its higher educational institution respondents, this enrollment information area was selected as one information communication system to examine.

Nature of the Report

In essence, the existing substance reported by institutions to the State Education Department on fall enrollments is registrations as of the middle of October, of enrollments classified by major field of study by type of degree, by sex, and by year in school and by full-time or part-time enrollment. The classification of major field of study is adapted from the code system used by the U.S. Office of Education in its report of degrees conferred. The degrees conferred report is assembled from all institutions in the United States at the end of an academic year as of June 30.

For fall enrollment purposes it is condensed to major categories; for example, liberal arts and sciences are considered all one category even though this includes the biological sciences, english and journalism, fine and applied arts, foreign language and literature mathematical subjects, physical sciences, etc. For fall enrollment purposes distinction in type of degree is made on these categories: associate degree programs, undergraduate bachelors' degrees, four years or more in duration, first professional degrees, graduate and higher level professional degrees, those taking college courses for credit who are not candidates for degrees. The total of these constitutes the figure on number of all of the degree credit students enrolled



in an institution.

by each institution, Form ST (C)-1a. This form calls for each field of study, enrollment by year in each degree program by full-time or part-time student and by sex.

A full-time student is defined as one taking 12 or more semester hours of academic work or the equivalent in one semester. Each institution further reports on a form of identical format, Form ST (C)-1, the summary of the respective green sheets which represent each individual major field of study; except that the summary does not show the breakdown by year in program. In addition, the summary form calls for day and evening session, nondegree-credit students on campus, enrollment in extension courses, enrollment in summe: session, undergraduate freshmen admissions, transfers in the junior class from other institutions by several fields and number of additional qualified juniors who could have been accepted with existing facilities in such specified fields.

The reporting forms thus make it possible to have a summary tabulation of enrollments in "engineering" for example, in the entire State in a table as shown in the diagram attached containing 63 cells, permitting the determination for each year through the course of an engineering program, the numbers of full-time men and women and total full-time students, the numbers of part-time men and women and total part-time students, and the grand total men and women and total of both men and women students.

The State Education Department Requirements

The question can be raised as to just why, for just what purpose, does

CAMDIDATES FOR UNDERGRADUATE BACHELOR'S DEGREES 4 YEARS OR MORE IN DURATION

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the State Education Department engage in collecting information on fall enrollments as previously described. There may be a number of ways of classifying possible functions to be served by a State statistical information system, but in the present instance it appears that the State's interest in fall enrollments falls into two major categories; one, the informative function and, two, the directive function. The nature of the State Education Department's role in the field of higher education, as the official State agency responsible for collecting and disseminating information, is first, to produce information not only useful in its own immediate operations but also as a means of communicating to all concerned what the general state of education is. The informative function includes regular published reporting of statistics and supplying unpublished information as may be required from time to time. The major published report coming under this informative function is a report on college and university enrollments such as "College and University Enrollment, New York State, Fall 1961 and 1962". This report lists individual institutions, publishes summary statistics for all institutions in the State on a full-time, part-time, by men and women breakdown in each of the degree categories.

One difficulty from the standpoint of utility, is the date it is possible for this to be communicated. The 1961–1962 materials were published as of the middle of the 1963–64 school year. Not all of the detail appearing in the data transmitted to the State Education Department appears in the published report. For instance, information on enrollment by year of student in course does not appear. Also, there is not a breakdown by major field, the basic unit of statistical reporting used in the system. The material in the published report is derived from the enrollment summary,

Form ST (C)-1

What then is to be said concerning the necessity of individual institutions submitting the green sheets. Form ST (C - la which are enrollment sheets by major field when these data are not reported? The answer would have to be in the possible requirement of information in such detail by individuals elsewhere in the State Education Department or outside of the State Department for detailed information regarding enrollments in particular areas. This appears to be another type of requirement of the informative function variety.

There is also the directive function. The State Education Department is the only education agency in the State which can assume responsibility for guiding by whatever means it can guide the futures and the fortunes of all educational operations. In other words, it has a responsibility in the creas of planning and research which are very similar to information of a statistical nature assembled by private enterprise for purposes of management in evaluating results and in planning for future programs. It is therefore assumed, for example, that enrollment by class level of student, by sex, and by full-time - part-time in various degrees by major fields is a type of information which, even if not published as a report, should be stored and available in a basic recordkeeping system of the State Education Department. This assumption is made simply because it is unclear at this point during the course of this study just what the purposes are for the information. This is a crucial decision since complex data collection mechanisms should be established with a hard look at end products. There is the danger of concentrating on the "means" rather than the "ends" when processing equipment of greater capacity becomes available. Establishing



"data banks" by storing information which some day, somebody might use can be a misapplication of electronic data processing equipment. For such reasons further examination of purposes and uses of the fall enrollment information is recommended.

Requirements of Individual institutions

To a great extent the kind of information sought in the fall enrollment reports is from sources which are required for good management in institutions themselves at an early date. There are some exceptions to this—For instance, because of differences in the way colleges and universities are organized, their classification of students by major field or by type of degree might not fit the definitions used—Also, the major concern of an institution regarding its enrollment at the beginning of the year might not include breakdowns indentical to those required in the State report. In the tables shown in the accompanying diagram, one from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and one from Cornell University, are examples of summaries made by the individual institutions for their own use. !! is of interest that in one instance tabulation is made showing the year of student and classification by day and evening, whereas in the other, the institution is concerned more with the breakdown as to men and women enrollment

Not only because of the interest in having such information is the reporting of fall enrollment no great—burden on the colleges, but also because the source documents are universally essential. These source accuments are the admissions and registration documents.

Reporting Patterns of Institutions

With minor exceptions, as noted in the appendix of this report, the

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Bus. & Pub. Admin. Graduate Law	192 2055 339	539 7	198 2594 346	197 2343 315	516 117	ა 555 5	67 938 122			
ngriculture Home Economics Ind. & Lab. Rel. Veterinary Medicine	1611 348 • 222	288 732 59 8	1899 732 407 230	1917 705 397 231	524 79 23	85 223 16 <u>1</u>	609 223 95 24	469 73	78 204 15	5×7 2(~ 88
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Grand Totals	9620	3129	12,749	12,339	2751	1010	3751	•	•	

[•] Includes 17 men in Graduate School of Reronautical Engineering.

RENSSELAER POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR ENROLLMENT FOR FALL 1963

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Geo!.		6	5	9				13	1						
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Total Architecture	43	44	40	39	29		195	3)						
Total Mgt.	1	16	17	8			42								
Unclassified				-		8	88	28	!		39	89	591	8	
Grand fotal	928	694.	652	883	29	8	3001	752	50	179	39	89	591	20	4721

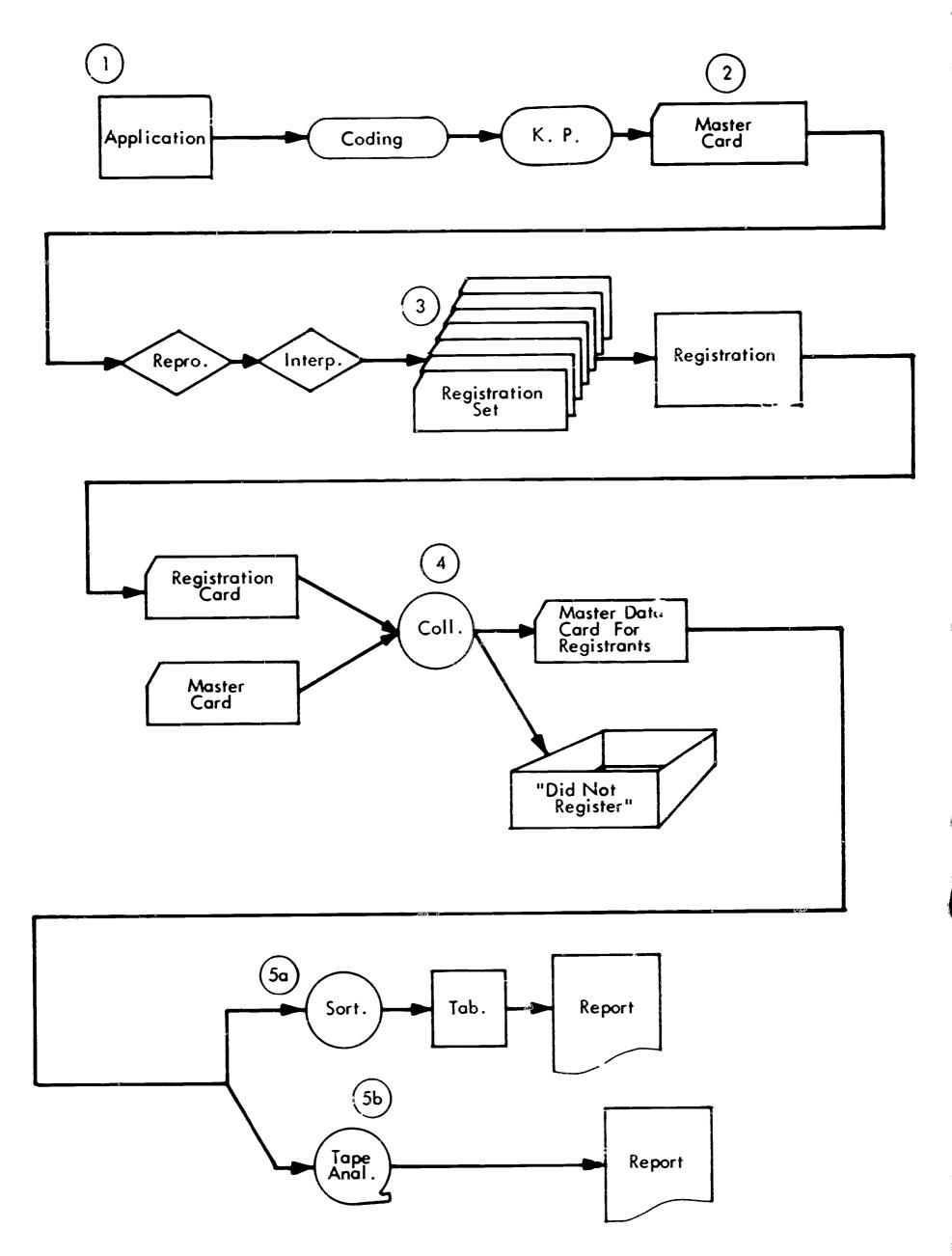


^{**}New students entering from secondary schools.

institutions are now producing their fall ematthent reports more or less as a by-product of what appears to be an appropriate information system readired for good management of the school admissions and legic attor function. The accompanying flow diagram roughly indicates what the procedules are. The steps are a follows

- Used by institutions for this the application to admission contains the name of the student text intended major field, school or college in which to be entalled information on previous coilege attendance, class or year in the program, the degree sought and whether attendance is to be full-time or part-time. The more advanced processing systems in institutions contacted in this study followed the dictum that "the earlier information can be obtained in a form which can be utilized further, the greater is the potential benefit in fruitful use of the information and the elimination of epetitive steps." A master crad after coding is punched as a part of the student record system to be used in later stages of the operation of the institution and without reference particularly to the reporting of fall enablements to the State Education Department.
- The master card becomes the basic processing accument for the enrollment system. This takes on various forms and in most of the institutions visited, results immediately from the application of a student showing such information as sex school or college year in program, major degree intended, etc. Samples of such cards from a large and a small institution appear in the accompanying diagram
- Registration Cotas In most systems, the first function of the master card is the production of the state of registration cards on which is reproduced the basic identification of the stadent -- name department, class, student number, etc. For example, in the case of Rensselaer, the stack of registration cards includes the student's card which after registration he carrys with him cottifying his admission to classe, a card for the student's identification, the campus police registration card, the card for the Comptroller's Office a card for the Office of the Chaplain, and a card for the Office of the Registrar, in most cases the receipt of the registration card by the Registrar becomes a means by which he, if under his control begins the task of supplying information on fall enrollments by whatever method. A collation with the master card file and some adjustments, as are always required begins the processing of the enrollment report.

^{*} Nelson Associates, Inc. A Registration Manual for Colleges. August, 1963 p. 1-11.



SYNTHESIS OF SYSTEMS FOR FALL ENROLLMENT REPORTING IN INSTITUTIONS



BROOME TECHNICAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE

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EXAMPLES OF MASTER CARDS



- 4. Collation of the registration card with the master card file produces the master data card for registrants.
- Tabulation. The final step is a process of enumeration, either by means of sorting of cards and tabulating or by means of tape if that type of equipment is used. The result is a print-out which permits the preparation of the ST (C)-1 and 1-a reports

In all cases there are problems of the organization of the institution such as the necessity of securing supplemental information from department heads on degree or classification of student as to major and the like.

In the main, even with the best equipment available in institutions visited, a hand task begins at this stage. This is the hand transcription of results printed out from laborsaving statistical processing equipment for transmittal on the Education Department forms. This raises the question of how otherwise this might be communicated to the State Education Department. In a small institution the reporting is relatively simple and there is perhaps no alternative. In larger ones, with suitable equipment, some thought might be given to eliminating this remaining hand operation by the development of a standardized summary cord which could easily be prepared by the equipment available and which could be transmitted for each major field in lieu of the ST (C)-1a forms.

One area of improvement in the flow of data is quite evident. There are considerable variations in the requirements of individual institutions due to their size, their organization and the like. However, the differences in the nature of forms of card design and processing methods are not all attributable to the unique requirements of each institution. In some respects systems are less efficient than they could be, had they been in all cases designed initially for data processing. Many of

system and are in a sense improvisations for a record system which was conceptually not mechanized. A concerted effort on developing model procedures to be adapted as required in institutions certainly would help not only in expediting the transmission of information to the State Education Department, but also in providing more expeditiously required information needed internally

The Communication Link Between Institution and State

There are a number of ways in which information of various steps in the data flow within institutions can be tapped for use in the State Education Department. The major considerations which would determine this are logically time and cost. An additional consideration, of course would be accuracy. This element is presumably dependent upon the accuracy of the individual institutions' local processing systems and would be the same for any properly conceived transmission system the State Education Department. The method of transmission would also depend upon the form of information most suited to uses and processing methods in the State Education Department. For example, if information at the Albany level was needed on an individual student basis, more information would have to be transmitted than if only totals were required of categories of student

If processing was complex, requiring all the capabilities of the GE 225 computer, and if its capability in speed and processing was sufficiently superior and, at the same time, not excessively costly, there would be justification in the transmission of source data (decks of student master cards, tapes, etc., to the State Education).



State Education Department could, in effect sort, count tabulate, or the equivalent, and thus produce an institution's report. It would be necessary, of course, to balance the cost against efficiency, measured by the time saved in accomplishing the end result at the State Education Department level

For purposes of this report, none of the conditions appear to exist which would call for the transmission of source data to Albany. In the first place, it is assumed in this analysis that the information requirement at the State Education Department level is only the enumeration appearing in the individual cells of the reports, Form ST (C)-1a.

Wire transmission of a suitable input of unit data istudent cards) to appropriate equipment at the State Education Department level would be cumbersome, costly and unnecessary. Mailing or shipping a tape or tapes with the necessary information on a unit basis would be just as feasible tin view of the timing required for producing these reports), but equally unnecessary. The results of this analysis show a basically common pattern of recordkeeping and processing in institutions, but by no means standardization of card design, programs, etc., that would permit such communication between institution and Albany except on the basis of unique programs for each individual institution. Since only information concerning totals of students enrolled by categories is the greatest detail, the only apparent alternative is transmission only of this information to the State Education Department.

There remains, of course—the question of the best method of transmitting just that information appearing on Forms ST :CI-1 and ST ·CI-1a To be sure, the

form is designed for uniform use by all types of higher educational institutions and is thus conceived as a hand-entered document. This is as it must be for small institutions which do not have electronic data processing equipment or for accommodating differences in the kind of reporting systems and forms of output of such systems in institutions which do have modern facilities for data processing

equipment and systems must take on the hand-posting on these relatively complicated forms. The posting on the reports themselves is a matter of a few hours of time for a typist or statistical clerk, yet the entries within this document constitute the substance to be transmitted. Some attention might be given to the possibility of preparing these forms in a format adaptable to the more common types of data processing equipment. This would have value at such time as large numbers of institutions have equipment of a more or less standardized type. Short of this consideration, the possibility has been suggested of the State receiving print-outs, in lieu of the form itself, or possibly summary cards, which could be prepared on the institution level on a design usable by the State Education Department.

None of the types of adaptation of means of transmission of information to the State Education Department seem to justify modification at this time; unless there are to be modifications of the information requested on the form itself. For instance, some delays result from some breakdowns of enrollment required that are not easily determined, data processing or no, in institutions. Some of this information is of a type which has considerable statistical error at best. For instance, information on a student's class or year is in part arbitrary statistics by nominal defini-



semester hours taken. Short of asking a student to indicate his year or when he intends to graduate (an inaccurate measure), sources such as a college or department office or a Registrar's Office outside the basic records must usually be consulted student-by-student for this classification. In some institutions, difficulty is experienced in determining and/or updating this information in time for submission of Form ST (C)-la by the deadline. Occasionally an institution itself is not interested and thus does not require this item or it will ascertain it after the pressures of registration at the opening of the academic year, or later during the semester. In all cases, however, the number of freshmen or first-year students is available even when a breakdown by other years is not

This raises the question of whether or not it would not be worth a careful examination of this classification in the report in terms of the real value in its use. It is to be observed that marginal totals that is without the cross tabulation of major field, full-time vs. part-time men and women and type of degree is probably as useful as most statistical operations will justify in projecting enrollments or analyzing changes in patterns of offerings in higher educational institutions. This would mean for a major field of study such as "engineering", for instance, that there should be some thought as to why the following would not be sufficient:

Α.	Candidates for undergraduate bachelor degrees, four years or more in duration	Total
	1. Attendance Full-time	
	Part-time	Total



	2. <u>Sex</u>	
	Men	
	Women	T . I
		Total
	3. Class	
	First year	
	Second year	
	Third year	
	Fourth year	
	Fifth year	
	Undistributed by year	
		Total
В.	Candidates for graduate and higher level	
	professional degrees	Total
	1. Attendance	
	Full-time	
	Part-time	
		Total
	2. <u>Sex</u>	
	Men	
	Women	
		Total
	3. Degree level	
	Candidates for Master's Degree	
	Candidates for Doctorate	
	Degree	
	Undistributed at graduate level	
		Total

Some of the larger institutions also have difficulties in reporting graduate school students by major field. The classification system used for major field generally corresponds to the undergraduate divisions of the larger institutions but many students are registered in the graduate schools as a separate administrative division. For these institutions the reporting by major field means two separate and distinct surveys, one for the undergraduate by division and one for the graduate school



alone by college of major. Also the level of graduate degree is not always coded or dealt with at the registration stage, this suggests the possibility of pulling off essential information at one period and more detail at a later period for the type of results which are not easily obtained by institutions by the middle of October

In the main much of the difficulties encountered by institutions in producing these reports promptly can be overcome internally without too much difficulty.

Some of the systems of processing data appear to be purtially compromises between the original hand-operated systems and adaptations to data processing equipment. There appear to be potential improvements in many of the institutions for this reporting which is basically a by-product of recognized best practices in management of the admissions and registration functions in an institution

There are minor matters which can be worked out either as a part of the relationships between the colleges and the State Education Department or as a matter of internal organization within the institution. In cases where reports are delayed because the institution has a "cut-off" date for registration differing from the mid-October date, special arrangements can be made between staff of the State Education Department and the institution to facilitate a pretabulation or setting a compromise date. Particularly in the larger institutions, some help in designing a simple method of running and rerunning where there are two sets of definitions of time for running may call for some assistance and some compromising as to method of transmission of data by the institution. In one situation a school on a trimester system was completing one trimester as of the reporting date. This can be solved by definition.

The organization and control over machine time has some bearing on



expediting the reporting. This is something which is purely an institutional matter. It should be observed that any institution which is so organized that the functions of admissions and registration cannot be effectively handled by processing certainly should be encouraged to find a method of providing the equipment or of scheduling its use to handle this work. Enrollment reporting is so much a by-product of the work of the Registrar's Office that when the latter is efficiently handled the other should follow easily.

Some institutions have been caused inconvenience by receiving reports late. This turns out to be somerimes the result of the transmission of the reports to the president of the institution rather than directly to the individual such as the registrar who is responsible for submitting the report. This system can be corrected easily by the State Education Department. There are evidently some institutions which report late simply because of lack of interest or of motivation in reporting. This is a problem of relationships of agencies.

The relationship of the ST (C:-1 and the ST (C:-1a forms presents some problem to reporting institutions. The form ST (C:-1 is the summary requested prior to the detailed report by field on the form ST (C:-1a which is submitted by field of study. Most institutions find it advisable to complete form ST (C:-1a, the field of study form, and summarize tallies on this on to form ST (C:-1 to assure that the summary equals the total of detailed forms. This procedure seems logical and yet it is inconsistent with the system which requires the total without breakdown on the form ST (C)-1 prior to the submission of the detail.



Reporting College Degrees Conferred

Most of the above discussion has little bearing upon reporting of degrees conferred. This is due to the fact that little data processing is involved by institutions in the preparation of this report. It is a hand count or simple card count task in institutions. In smaller institutions this is a minor matter since numbers of degrees conferred is small (i.e. 200 or fewer) and classification by different categories of degree is relatively simple and discrete.

This reporting system is a U.S.Office of Education program. The State Education Department uses an identical copy of the form used by the U.S. Office of Education. This raises the question (even more so than in fall enrollment reporting) of the degree to which the U.S. Office of Education should be viewed as part of a conceivable "network" of communication.

There are some obvious reasons for looking for duplication of effort in reporting of degrees conferred during the course of information flow after the institution supplies initial data. It should be possible to develop in cooperation with the U.S. Office of Education a plan of one shot reporting by institutions. Since the State form is a duplicate of the Federal one, there appears little reason for not using some direct copy scheme for this reporting. Also, progress is being made in the U.S. Office of Education in the capabilities of its data processing equipment. The time may soon be at hand when data flow could be unduplicated either as (a) institution to Albany to Washington or as (b) institution to Washington to Albany. Even though uses at the two levels may differ, there is no problem even today in producing duplicate cards or duplicate tapes.

There appears to be some need to study riming from point of institutional reporting to published result. There is approximately a year lag between end of academic year and first U.S. Office of Education published report on degrees. A June 1964 Summary Report on Bechelor's and Higher Degrees Conferred During the Year 1962-63 by the U.S. Office of Education was disseminated in the fall of 1964. This summary presents marginal totals only, a by state and b by area of study. The report of similar information by area of study for New York State and by institution was released by the State Education Department about the same time for the years 1960-61 and 1961-62 in College and University Degrees, New York State 1960-61 and 1961-62.

Institutions report only one problem of significance in reporting these data. This has to do with classification of degree by major field of study. Unlike the fall enrollment report for which students are classified only in broad areas of study such as "Agriculture" and "Business and Commerce". The degree report requires a finer breakdown. Departmental and curricular organization of larger and specialized institutions does not always show detail required in this report. The biological sciences is a case in point. One institution finds it difficult to determine by conferring with school or college heads, numbers of graduate degree recipients in biochemistry and biophysics. There were only 23 master's and 17 doctorate degrees in the entire United States reported in biophysics for 1962-63 (cf. report cited above. The breakdown in this reporting taxonomy calls for some unusually specialized categories which might, or might not match an institution's scheme of labelling degrees. In biological sciences five or fewer doctorates or master's degrees were reported in the United States in 1962-63 for the three subclasses, Cytology, Ecology and Embryology. Assuming that it is



of importance for this detail to be reported for someone's use there is reason to doubt its accuracy if there were others in these special areas tabulated in "Biology General" simply because there was not the checking through of all programs of all degree recipients in all institutions to accommodate the reporting classification.

On the other hand, in the published results of these forms only total Engineering is reported since a separate detailed engineering degree report is requested by the U.S. Office of Education. (See U.S. Office of Education. Advance Report on Engineering Degrees, 1962-63 and Enrollments Fall 1963.) The detail in the engineering report also presents classification problems. Some degrees are granted simply as "Master of Engineering" of all types and some specifically as "Master of Chemical Engineering", for example

The classification difficulty is worth pursuing largely from the stand-point of validity of resulting statistics. Also, since it is a nation-wide reporting program, it is in the State's interest to activate continuous and critical reevaluation of this program in cooperation with appropriate national organizations.



This phase of the study differs in several respects from the reporting of higher educational institutions. The motivation is the same in one respect, namely, the respondent (in this case the New York City system) has extensive data processing equipment and is taking steps to develop its applications fully to internal management requirements and reporting. There is thus considerable justification in looking for ways of linking information processing in New York City with the processing capabilities of the State Education Department in Albany.

The information selected for pilot investigation was data on professional personnel—in view of the cbt gat on of the State in the area of establishing and maintaining standards for qualification of teachers, there is more to this subject than simple reporting. The State Education Department function in receiving and processing higher education enrollment and degree data, particularly in privately controlled institutions, is to find out what is going on, not to manage, direct or control what is going on. Ce to cation and placement of teachers in the public school system, however, is a function for which the State Education Department has direct responsibility. This means that, unlike student information from colleges, unit data is essential in this case at the Albany level.



The Professional Personnel information

The data required by the State Education Department by individual professional employees includes

Date of birth if or determining age:

Sex

Professional field and field assigned

Percent of time employed in system

Degree status

Salary

Tenure status of employment

Certification status

Years of experience by type of experience

Kind and location of employment previous year

This information is assembled in a uniform manner from all school districts except New York City on Form ST (S)-6a. The New York City School System issues its own reaching certificates. has its own system of classification of professional personnel and a system of processing designed for its special situation.

The Unique Aspects of New York City

There is a personnel reporting requirement for New York City unlike that for any other school system in the State. One complication arises from the fact that about a third (15,000) of the protessional personnel in New York City are "substitute" teachers, though employed regularly and on a full-time basis. As substitutes, their records are not the same as those for permanent teachers. The present record system in the City does not provide required information on sex, marital status, age (date of birth), certification status, and years of educational experience for these teachers.



THE UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK

The State Education Department **Bureau** of Statistical Services Albeny, New York 12224

PROFESSIONAL PERSONNEL REPORT FORM ST(S)-60

Degree Status

(Check ene)

First

4 Meeters

6 Decterate

5 Mesters + 30 er mere heurs

!milion!

Date of

Kind of Experience

Total paid education experience

Total in this district

Professional field

Total in this

Educational Experience

of years

School District

Name 2 Miss. 3 Mrs.

I 🔲 No Degree

3 🔲 Bachelers + 30

I ☐ Not certified

5 | Other

2 5-year Provisional

3 | IO-year Provisional

4 🔲 Permanent er life

or more hours

Certificate Appropriate to this field

(Check one)

2 Dechelers

1 | Mr.

Social Socurity Number

in this professional Contract field Substitute cational Experience Occupation Last Year Number Occupation	.2 [] .3 [] .4 []
in this professional Contract	.3 🗍
Total Gross Salary Nature of Appointment Number of menths employed Tenure Percent of time employed Probationary	
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Check one New employee Continuing employee County County	

(Check one)

2 Teaching
3 Homemaking
4 Industry
5 Wher

| | Student

Within

N.Y.S.

Outside

la this Dist.

1

N.Y.S.

1

2 🗆

3 🗇

Coding for Professional Fields

Code	Duty Assignment
5400	Health Education
5500	Home Economics
5600	Library
5700	Music
5800	Physical Education and Hygiene
5850	Recreation
5875	Driver Education
5900	Speech
6100	industrial Arts
6200	Industrial and Technical
71G0	School Nurse
7200	Dental Hygienist
7500	Guidance Counselor
7550	Social Worker
7600	Attendance Teacher
7700	Physician
7800	Psychology
8000	Adult Education
8100	Audio Visual
9999	Other*
and Distributive Education	9999
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Research Assistant Philosophy Homobound — if not overnmentary Helping

Substillate Stade Hall Dealist

For both permanent and substitute personnel in New York City information is not now available on years of experience in the district, years of experience in the professional field percent of time employed and, for new teachers, kind and location of employment previous year. Also, degree status is recorded in the City in slightly different form. For instance, there is no distinction in the City between teachers with the Bachelor's plus 30 or more hours and those with the Master's Degree. Classification of professional field in the City permits some calculation of teachers by field, though not completely fitting the system used for the rest of the State.

Possible Steps to Take

The points of focus on this problem are

- 1) Definition and coding of information required
- 2) Processing in New York City
- 3) Transmission to Albany

The solution as to what information can be reported depends in large part upon how much the New York City system can do, and should do, in revising its basic record system so as to provide missing information for both permanent and substitute teachers. The anomalous nature of the New York City system must be recognized. How far New York City can, within the framework of its operation, supply new information for substitute teachers depends in part upon how important it is to fit New York City into the rest of the State with respect to supplying such information as years of experience. Some of the missing information, however, appears to be of a type which would be important for the City system itself.

It appears that further work on this and other statistical reporting



problems concerning New York City should begin with assistance from the State, in its own interest, on the highly unique and complex situation in the City. The New York City Board of Education offices get information on pupils and personnel from over 800 schools. This is almost the same number of "respondents" as the school districts the State depends upon for its public school statistics. With nearly a third of the State situation volume of information in New York City, the State should undoubtedly look to the time when it would have some of its own equipment and personnel in the City itself for purposes of facilitating data flow and providing the desired "information network".

The time for studying the subject of computers in the communication system is not remote. The Board of Education in New York City has been reorganizing its entire statistical operation and adding new equipment. It is planned, further, to consolidate data processing formerly distributed in various components of the City organization. Presently the City system is using two IBM 1401 computers. A 7010 is on order. Information on teachers now comes from two sources, one the payroll. A tape file is planned for all personnel. The teacher records file is now limited to permanent teachers only. Data for substitute teachers comes from payroll records.

Arrangements have been made to send to the State Education Department available data on substitute teachers on tape which is compatible with equipment in Albany. This type of adaptation of transmission of information to Albany from the City should be expected to be practised more and more as cooperative planning of statistical reporting continues.

IMPLICATIONS FOR BUILDING A STATE EDUCATION INFORMATION NETWORK

The results of this pilot study do not point immediately to revolutionary developments in "computers talking to computers". Nevertheless, with the more sophisticated planning and designing of reporting and record systems, and advances in processing equipment on both the State and local or institutional levels, the time is at hand for tooling up for what should exist in efficient reporting within the next five or ten years. The ultimate goal is the time when most, if not all, statistical information will come to Albany in a form designed for modern data processing equipment. This calls for different kinds of thinking — designing and planning — than how to adapt hand-entered reporting systems so that computers can use them.

The major ideas in this connection which have come out in this study follow.

- o In order to expedite the flow of information to the State Education Department, the State agency should build around operating systems of reporting institutions and ocal school systems.
- The concept of "information network" by its very nature implies decentralization. The State can develop such a network partly by cooperative planning with larger institutions and school systems now using modern data processing equipment, but it may have to supply some of the elements in some communication channels at points outside the Albany center. A State Education Department communication outpost is needed in New York City. Data processing outposts are springing up in some of the BOCES centers partly to facilitate statistical reporting. This development could well be speeded up from the standpoint of a system an information network
- Only as such a network is in the making can the linking of computers



have much meaning. The New York City reporting of professional personnel is a case in point. Information ent to Albany on a tape is just as satisfactory a this information on the sands of report forms and is a more efficient way of doing things. In working toward the future, thought should be ascented fewer unit records coming to Albany. This will work if data exist in a form which is easily tapped in institutions and local school systems. In a genuine and fully developed information network, detail to be stored in Albany could be held to a minimum. Data of importance of the type which is form time to time required could be tapped if and when records. Thus, in principle, its saying that the network concept should contemplate different communicating substance, not just different ways of transmitting the same information.

- The matter of compatibility of equipment is no real problem in statistical reporting from reporting entits with indequate equipment. Special arrangements to expedite reporting or east the burden of reporting at some point are hardly worth the cost decause of the current lack of uniformity in processing systems within reporting units. In other words, special programs and coding systems would have to be worked out, for example, for some universities for reporting student statistics. The New York City problem is an exception because of its size. It would pay to develop a special system from ground up to handle New York City statistics.
- The nature of reports covered in this report are such as not to require full advantages of computer processing. These reports all deal with simple enumeration. To be sure, data processing equipment under consideration can count and add rapidly and is therefore useful. However, the chief value of a computer is in computing. This points to the desirability of lifting the level of sights for end products of such statistics. A computer can be programmed, for example, to project trends, to produce factor analytic information relating to variations in college attendance, retention in college, accession rates, major fields, etc. Similarly, the real value of the computer in the professional personnel field is not just in getting the totals on time, but to extract more information from the data which will help to inderstand what goes to make up the teaching profession in New York State, how it got that way and how it is changing.
- Aside from the processing aspect of reporting, there were other areas touched in the course of this study which bear on the State reporting system. The importance of the coordinating function at the State level came up frequently in work with higher educational institutions. The enrollment and degree reporting is part of the Federal system. Coordination with the U.S. Office of Education data flow requirements is therefore part of the State reporting picture. The State can lead as well as follow in planning the future of such reporting. A coordination



on the State level is also indicated for the State institutions which report through the State University of New York. There is some evidence of the need for a State information clearing house. One university reported over 100 requests for enrollment information duplicating what it had sent to the State Education Department



APPENDIX -- DIGEST OF SAMPLE OF RELATED HIGHER EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION DATA PROCESSING PROGRAMS

The following text and diagrams resulted from correspondence with and visits to campuses of six higher educational institutions in regard to fall enrollment and degrees conferred reporting.

Broome Technical Community College

Equipment. Uses IBM full capacity 403 with bill feed, reproducing summary punch, a sorter, two key punches, 077 collator and a verifier in process of being added. This equipment is deemed adequate to handle needs for foreseeable future. An IBM 1620 computer is on campus primarily for educational purposes.

Source Documents. Most source documents exist prior to the time of registration. An Admissions Card is punched from information found in the students' application. This card is duplicated onto a "status card" which is interpreted and given to the Registrar's Office for its use as a reference and for compiling reports.

Coding. Coding is of small significance. Those used are simple and unique to Broome Tech.

Processing. By means of data processing equipment, several types of lists of students by name are prepared from the Admissions Card with summary totals as follows:



FALL ENROLLMENT FLOW CHART - BROOME TECHNICAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE

by name, alphabetic by curriculum by count by class by high school by marital status by veteran status by date of birth

These lists would be complied whether required or not by outside agencies but serve as a basis for compiling entries or State and Federal forms. The processing for fall enrollment reports for the State Education Department and the U.S. Office of Education is straightforward. However, as part of the State University of New York, this institution supplies considerably more information to the State University system which, for example, shows residence of students by county. In order to supply data required by the State University, it is necessary to supplement the source documents noted above with lists and unpunched cords supplied by various departments. For example, identification of students in liberal arts areas requires special information from department chairmen to determine number of students in each field.

The reporting functions of the Registrar's Office are not considered to be burdensome even though hand tallying from machine lists and data is necessary. As a part of the State University of New York, this College fills out the SUNY forms rather than Federal ones. The degrees conferred report to the State Education Department is compiled by hand count.

Reporting Problems. It is reported that the system of definition, classification and coding as required by the State Education Department practically in no



problems of definition exist. For instance, an evening student enrolled in a program not leading to a degree could, nevertheress, be taking courses which would be quite acceptable as credit toward a degree. Since the dam processing used by the Office of the Associate Dear-and Registral which prepares statistical reports is under the control of that office, there are no organizational problems in this.

College as to scheduling of processing involves in the reporting operation.

Cornell University

Equipment U.e. IBM 1401 computer 8r. in age capacity with four tape drive units, and 1403 printer unit. IBM above a processive uch as sorters, collators, reproducers, everal key puncte and verifies, and a 407 electric accounting machine trabulators.

Source Documents Most source documents exist place to the time of registration. For undergladuates, an Admission Carallier to applicants which, when returned, is coded and punched. For graduate, first data come from a form sent to the Registration Office by individual crook from which information is coded and punched. For ordistudent, the information required for reporting fall enrollment exists in the record system. Upon acceptance of a student, punching of data is entered into the tape system. Upon acceptance of a student, punching of data is entered into the tape system of cm a more completensive data form, sent to the prospective student and eturned into a form for at the time of registration, data from such sources is printed out on a form for correction by the student and corrections or charges a empide in the data.



FALL ENROLLMENT FLOW CHART - CORNELL UNIVERSITY

Coding Cornell has its own codes for almost every tem where coding is of value. Most of these codes were developed before codes were adopted by the U.S. Office of Education. There are some though small, variations between breakdowns in fields of study between the State and Federal system of classification and practices at Cornell.

Processing information for the fall enrichment reports is produced by the Machine Records Division of the University from stored information as described above. The situation is different however, for reporting degrees conferred. In general, undergraduate divisions do not reduire the selection of a major until the junior year whereas graduate scroots start out (usually) in a particular major. No record of undergraduate majors is kept in the tape asystem or in the Registrar's Office. In order to fill out forms calting for undergraduate majors this information must be solicited from the schools concerned. Major field tabulations for the degrees conferred reports are done by hand for graduate students and most undergraduate divisions using the commencement appropriatement and other lists as the sources.

Reporting Problem, Diff culties observed at Callell in the production of reports include:

- a) The number of sources of data (school) and competition which the Registrar's Office has with other divisions of the University for use of the data processing facilities.
- b) The Graduate School at times has not completed coding of new students as to field of study at the time of survey of enrollment for advanced degrees is due the U.S. Office of Education
- Cornel has some special problems because four units of the University are state divisions under contract for At it there



is a special reporting which does not, in all cales, synchronize with the reporting of the State Education Department and U.S. Office of Education.

d) Some data required by the State would not normally be used internally by Cornett University, i.e., geographic distribution below the state level.

Harpur College

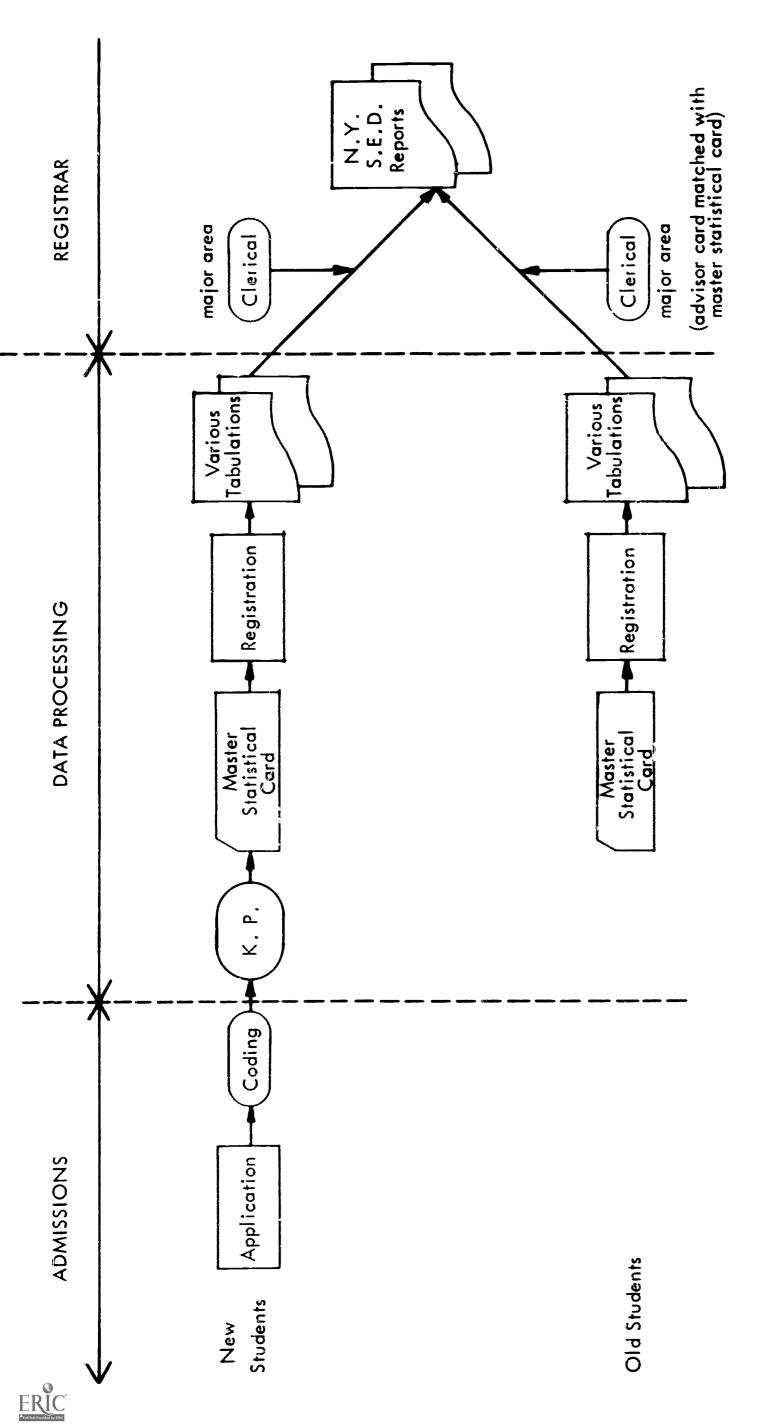
Equipment. Equipment is presently non-computer type consisting of a IBM 402 accounting machine, 082 sorter, 085 calculator, 514 reproducer and 548 interpreter.

Source Documents. The initial source of information is admission data which is punched into a student's Master Statistical Co.a. An additional source card is the "Advisor Cara" which is matched with the Master Statistical Card to produce the field of specification. The degrees conferred report is made by hand count in the Registrar's Office. This is no problem since there are only about 200 graduate students involved.

Coding There are some slight differences between the State and Federal report forms and the College's breakdowns of major fields of study. As part of the State University of New York, Harpur supplies information directly to the State University on information required for Federal reports. As a growing institution it apparently uses almost all of the information required on all of the reports internally

Processing The machine section requires forms containing data to the Registrar who draws desired information from same for entry onto the State University of New York fall enrorment forms. Several tabulator runs





FALL ENROLLMENT FLOW CHART - HARPUR COLLEGE

are required with punched cards arranged differently for various tabulations in preparation of the fall enrollment reports. For all students the Master Statistical Card is a basic source card. For new students the application form supplies information for a statistical card. All the statistical cards are then processed with the information at registration and the remaining after. This screening begins the card source for internal tabulations which contribute to the statistical fall reports.

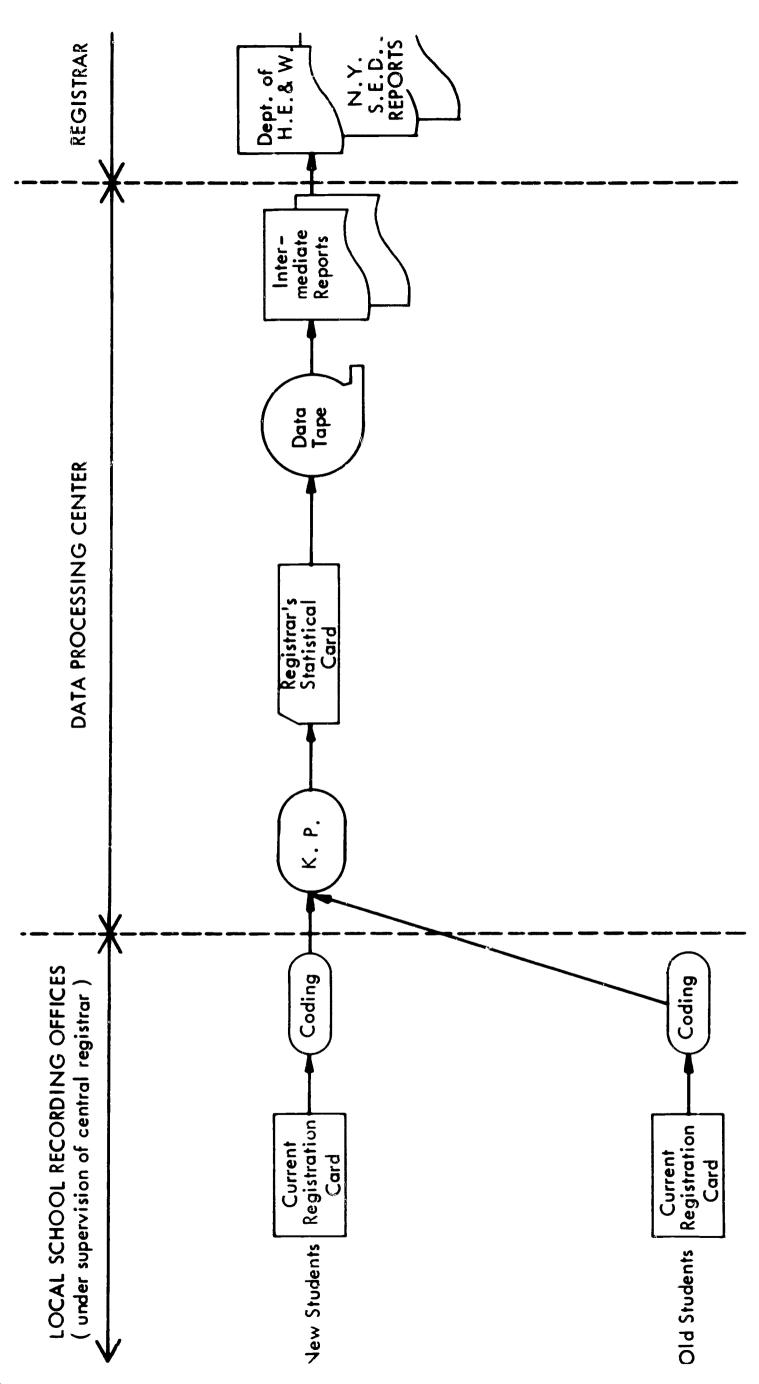
Reporting Problems. The trimester system used in Harpur created a different problem for people of fall enrollment as of the October 15 date since this occurs as one trimester is terminated and another is about to begin. No particular trouble is noted in filling cut the required report forms. There is some reason to believe that slightly more advanced data processing equipment would be helpful in expediting the processing of the reports.

New York University

Equipment. The basic equipment used in reporting fall enrollment and degrees conferred at Nev York University is an IBM 1401 computer with a 12K capacity with auxiliary equipment.

Source Documents Basic source documents for enrollment data are the student current Registration Cards. These Registration Cards are maintained in the several divisions of the University and vary slightly. The commencement lists prepared by each local school recording office constitute the source documents for the report of degrees conferred.





FALL ENROLLMENT FLOW CHART ~ NEW YORK UNIVERSITY



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Coding. The systems of definitions, classifications and coding at NYU parallel that of the New York State Education Department and, with respect to earned degrees, the coding of the U.S. Office of Education, with slight modifications.

Processing. For the fall enrollment reports each recording office of the University codes a statistical card for each student registered. These cards are then processed by the Data Processing Center and reports are available usually at the beginning of the sixth week of classes. For the report of the degrees conferred, punch cards are prepared in the Registrar's Central Office using the final commencement list. As a part of the management function in the Office of the Registrar a fairly elaborate system of enrollment reports distributed in various ways for internal use is prepared regularly. For this reason the State and Federal reporting is, in great part, a by-product of the internal reporting system.

Reporting Problems. One difficulty mentioned in expediting the fall enrollment reporting is the fact that there are large numbers of late registrations which delay the reporting. This material must be held because of the nature of the system in individual recording offices until what is considered a suitable time to get a complete picture of registrations for internal use. This delays completion of the fall enrollment report for transmission to State and Federal agencies. The late registration component is small in percentage but large in numbers for an institution of this size. Something in the neighborhood of 2,000 late registrants were involved in the fall of 1964.

Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute

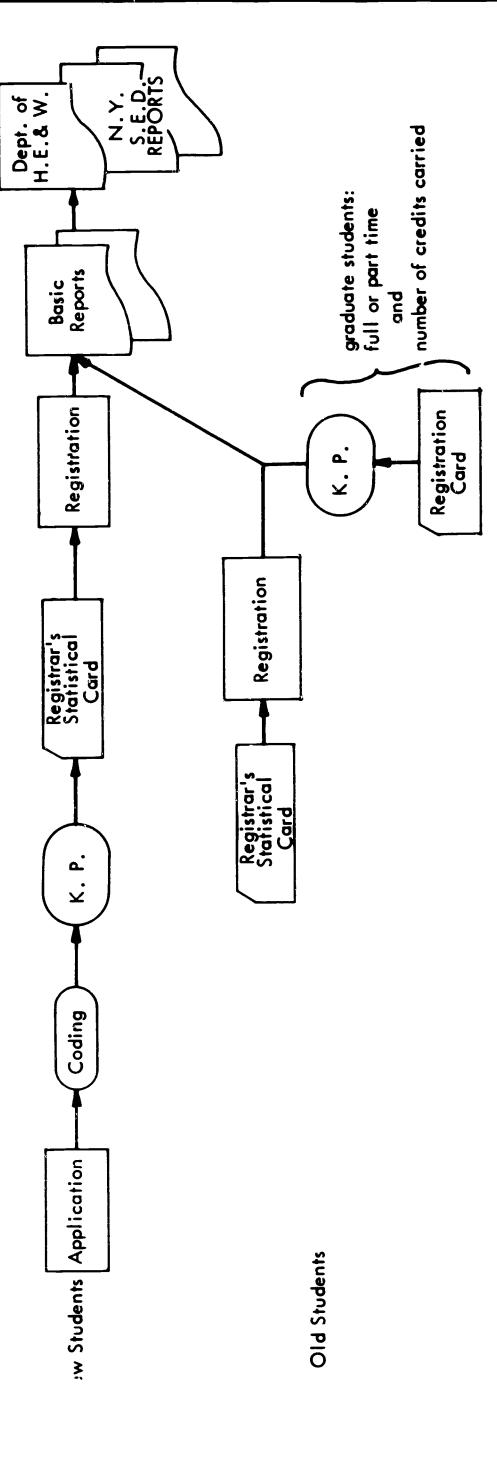
Equipment The Registrar's Office uses an IBM 1410 system with card input and culput located in the Mathematics Department of the Institution. The work for the Registrar's Office elating to reporting of enrollments is performed by the staff in the Registrar's Office, both programming and processing, with technical assistance supplied by macrine personnel.

Source Documents—The basic source document for continuing students is a "Reg strand Statistical Antonnar on stored on cards—Information concerning geography, sex, date of matriculation, date expecting degree, degree being pursued, marital status and schoot origin, is graded on this card by hand in code form. For new students, the desired information is obtained from the application form and hand coded—There is thus preliminary documentation of information ahead of the time of registration as an most other systems covered—For graduate students, classification of full-time or partitime and number of credits carried is obtained from Registration Cards after registration and is punched into the system.

Coding. No specific observations noted on the coding problem.

The Institution uses its own codes. Some standardized codes such as geographic source of student are used, as in other cases the codification of field of study for reporting purposes is not entirely suited to the Institution's curricular organization and system of classification of students. Year in degree program is based upon word of students as to year expected to graduate. This differs from other





FALL ENROLLMENT FLOW CHART - RENSSELAER POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE



institutions which classify students as to year in program by credit hours accumulated.

Processing Registrar's Statistical Cards prepared from application forms for new students and from existing records for old students is cleared through registration, and with minor supplementation, becomes the source for tabulating reports of enrollment. The reports on degrees conferred is prepared by hand. Since the report is prepared in the Registrar's Office and the Registrar is responsible for final clearance of degrees to be conferred, the information is available in the office preparing that report.

Reporting Problems The system depends heavily upon punching.

One complication in reporting arises from the fact that RPI has a branch in Connecticut, the enrollment of which is reported to the U.S. Office of Education, but not to the State Education Department. A scurce of delays in reporting has been noted at this institution, such as receiving State Education Department forms for degrees conferred after the close of the academic year. Preferably, forms should be in the hands of respondents well in advance of due dates. Delays in receiving forms apparently sometimes occurs as a result of their transmittal to the President of the Institution rather than the Registrar who is responsible for their preparation. In this respect, there is a difference between the transmittal system of the State Education Department and the U.S. Office of Education. The latter addresses its forms requesting enrollment information to the Registrar

University of Rochester

Equipment The facilities at Rochester consist of a IBM 1401 computer presently with 8K storage capacity in the process of being increased to 12K

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plus usual aux-liary machines

pared from data originating from Admissions information for new students and from existing records for the old students. This cald contains information on the students' sex, class, school or college, the major field degree sought, full or partitime status and marital status. This is the basic cord used by the Registran's Office for the preparation of enrollment reports for both the State and Federal agencies.

The degrees conferred report is prepared by hand from the commencement announcement and contains the names of the recipients and the degrees they are to receive.

Coding A student's major is designated by a letter coding system; for example, English is ENG. As in the case of other institutions, the system of classification of students relative to degrees conferred is, in many respects unique. For example, the State and Federat forms combine Language and Litterature whereas Rochester, for its own purposes, is interested in separating Literature.

Processing. Enrollment reports are produced by machine tabulation from the Master Cards. The report on degrees conferred is hard tabulated.

dovetail quite well with the requirements of State and Federal reporting. Degrees conferred information as required by the Office of Education is not of much use internally. As in the case of many institutions the classification of both first- and second-year undergraduate students by department or college is in some cases difficult and arbitrary.